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OO RUEHCHI RUEHDT RUEHHM
DE RUEHML #5102 3620920
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 280920Z DEC 06
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4405
INFO RUEHZS/ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS IMMEDIATE
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE 5936
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE 2448
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE 3005
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHHMUNA/CDRUSPACOM HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS MANILA 005102

SIPDIS

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STATE FOR EAP, PM, AND EAP/MTS
USPACOM ALSO FOR FPA HUSO AND J5
SECDEF/OSD/ISA/AP (TOOLAN/BAILEY)
JOINT STAFF/J5 (WILKES/ROBINSON/CLEMMONS)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [AORC](#) [ARF](#) [CH](#) [KS](#) [JN](#) [RP](#)

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO ARF MEETING ON MULTILATERAL SECURITY
COOPERATION IN NORTHEAST ASIA

11. (U) During a December 28 meeting to discuss ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) issues (septel), Department of Foreign Affairs Special Assistant to the Undersecretary for Policy Maria Andrelita Austria passed Acting Pol/C a copy of letter from Undersecretary Erlinda Basilio to her ARF Senior Officials' Meeting counterparts informing them that the Second Meeting of ARF Experts and Eminent Persons will take place in Manila February 5-6, 2007. Austria said originals of the letter would be transmitted to capitals on December 128. She also noted in an aside that China, Japan, and South Korea intend to schedule a trilateral meeting to discuss security issues on the margins of the January 13-15 ASEAN-related Summits in Cebu.

12. (U) The text of the Undersecretary Basilio's letter is provided below. The letter and accompanying diplomatic note and provisional agenda have been faxed to EAP/MTS.

BEGIN TEXT

22 December 2006

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of Mr. Gwan-pyo Nam, ARF SOM Leader of the Republic of Korea, I wish to inform you that in line with the tasking of the 13th ARF and the announcement at the 3rd ARF ISG on CBM and PD in Batam, Indonesia, the Second Meeting of ARF Experts and Eminent Persons (EEP) will be held in Manila, Philippines on 5-6 February 2007.

The main theme of the meeting will be Multilateral Security Cooperation in Northeast Asia. The meeting will discuss the overall security situation in Northeast Asia, including traditional and non-traditional security issues, examine lessons from other regional security cooperation and their implications for Northeast Asia, and explore the enhancement of multilateral security cooperation in Northeast Asia.

ARF EEPs from interested ARF participating countries are invited to attend the meeting. Government officials are also welcome to the meeting as observers. The costs of international travel and hotel accommodations for the EEPs and observers are to be borne by their respective ARF participating countries.

Attached is the provisional agenda, provisional annotated agenda, and tentative program of activities of the meeting. Further information on the administrative arrangements will be provided in due course.

With my best regards,

Sincerely yours,

/s/

Erlinda F. Basilio
ARF SOM Leader - Philippines

ARF SOM Leaders
ASEAN Secretariat

END TEXT

Visit Embassy Manila's Classified website:
<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eap/manila/index.cfm>
KENNEY